

Message

---

**From:** Hough, Palmer [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=51CD0B0D81AC416FA265944D6E6575CE-PHOUGH]  
**Sent:** 7/31/2013 1:28:36 PM  
**To:** Wayne Nastri [wnastri@e4strategicsolutions.com]  
**Subject:** your question re Authority  
**Attachments:** AL-11-000-2501 Response Murkowski re Bristol Bay 03-21-11.pdf

Per your vmm, EPA has addressed the issue of its authority to conduct the BBA in a number of letters and briefings to Congress over the past 2.5 years, including the attached March 21, 2011 letter to Senator Murkowski.

EPA also addresses this issue in the April 2013 revised BBA. In Chapter 1, page 1-2, the BBA states:

*"USEPA is conducting this assessment consistent with its authority under CWA Section 104. CWA Sections 104(a) and (b) provide USEPA with the authority to study the resources of the Bristol Bay watershed, evaluate the effect of pollution from large-scale mining development on those resources, and make such an assessment available to the public."*

---

Palmer Hough, Environmental Scientist  
office: 202.566.1374 | mobile: 202.657.3114

Wetlands Division  
U.S. EPA Headquarters (MC 4502T)  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
[www.epa.gov/wetlands](http://www.epa.gov/wetlands)